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C E N T R A L P I N E B A R R E N S
C O M M I S S I O N M E E T I N G

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RIVERSIDE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLAN (STP)
COMPATIBLE GROWTH AREA HARDSHIP WAIVER
DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
APPLICATION

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February 21, 2024
3:00 p.m.

4 Second Street
Riverhead, New York

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

A P P E A R A N C E S:

ROBERT T. CALARCO, Governor's Representative

EDWARD P. ROMAINÉ, Suffolk County Executive

TIMOTHY C. HUBBARD, Riverhead Town Supervisor

MICHELLE DI BRITA, Brookhaven Designated Representative

MARIA Z. MOORE, Southampton Town Supervisor

JANICE SCHERER, Southampton Designated Representative

MATTHEW CHARTERS, Riverhead Designated Representative

JUDITH E. JAKOBSEN, Executive Director

JULIE HARGRAVE, Joint Planning and Policy Manager

JOHN C. MILAZZO, Commission Counsel

ANGELA BROWN-WALTON, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

JEFF SEAMAN

DAWN THOMAS

1
2 MR. CALARCO: We have a public
3 hearing for the Riverside Sewage Treatment
4 Plan, Compatible Growth Area Hardship Waiver
5 Development of Regional Significance
6 application.

7 For the record, please note that we
8 have a full quorum here. Ms. Hargrave.

9 MS. HARGRAVE: So, I think everyone
10 received the staff report and also the letter
11 that was received from the Town today. I'll
12 just briefly go through the staff report.

13 This staff report describes the
14 project which is the development of a sewage
15 treatment plant for the Hamlet of Riverside.
16 The sewage treatment plant has a maximum
17 capacity of 800,000 gallons per day. It's
18 planned to be built in phases, with the first
19 phase having 400,000 gallons and the second
20 phase having the other half. The sewage
21 treatment plant will connect the existing
22 development in Riverside and additional
23 future development of the hamlet.

24 And just some background. In 2015,
25 the Town completed a draft generic

1
2 environmental impact statement and final
3 environmental impact statement findings. The
4 entire SEQRA process was completed for the
5 revitalization of Riverside for the hamlet
6 plan that was envisioned by the Town.

7 The sewage treatment plant
8 application is a significant component of the
9 hamlet revitalization plan. The Town has a
10 grant funding application that has a June
11 deadline. So, they are continuing to advance
12 the SEQRA process to the Town level for this.
13 They have prepared a supplemental draft
14 general environmental impact statement for
15 the sewage treatment plant and held hearings,
16 and they are advancing the completion of the
17 SEQRA process for the supplemental review.
18 When the SEQRA process is complete at the
19 Town level, a decision could occur by the
20 commission.

21 Just to go over some basic facts of
22 the application. The staff report has some
23 exhibits. So, you'll see there is an aerial
24 photograph of the site, and the parcels are
25 assembled by the Town, about seven parcels,

1
2 in what's known as the Southampton Enterprise
3 Zone south of Flanders Road. It's a
4 commercial/industrial subdivision, about 20
5 or so lots. This project site has been
6 placed on the west side of that loop road in
7 the industrial subdivision. You may know it,
8 if you pass the Suffolk Credit Union off
9 Flanders Road.

10 MR. HUBBARD: As us old timers here,
11 the old Flanders Drive-In.

12 MS. HARGRAVE: Yeah. Thank you. I
13 heard about it. Because of that old drive-in
14 movie theatre, there was some clearing in the
15 central portion of this, what was about 34
16 acres or so, before it was carved up into a
17 number of lots for the Southampton Enterprise
18 Zone for the subdivision in 2004. And
19 because of that pre-existing clearing, each
20 lot in the subdivision was allocated a
21 different clearing limit to balance out the
22 clearing and to have it conform with the
23 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. That
24 subdivision alone was developed, and it had
25 to conform to the Pine Barrens plan, and it

1
2 did.

3 Again, the subdivision map lists the
4 clearing limits allowed for each lot in that
5 subdivision. Typically, the Pine Barrens
6 plan, as Judy explained earlier, the clearing
7 limits go by zoning, not on the use of the
8 property but the zoning. This is
9 industrially zoned, and it was at the time of
10 the subdivision of the Enterprise Zone.
11 Again, each lot was allocated a different
12 clearing limit. So, that is what the
13 developers, when they develop lots in this
14 subdivision, they go by the map that was
15 filed for the Enterprise Zone. The
16 Enterprise Zone map is in there for your
17 reference.

18 Some photographs of the site are
19 provided. There's an old building on the
20 site. It's mostly -- the site is mostly
21 wooded. Again, because of that prior
22 clearing because of the drive-in, there were
23 areas of the site that were cleared. They
24 are starting to be recolonized by a lot of
25 pine trees. So, it's significantly wooded at

1
2 this time.

3 Exhibit E is the study area map that
4 shows generally the area. Again, to the
5 north of the site, on the far north of the
6 study area, is the Peconic River, open water
7 Peconic River. To the east is a substantial
8 amount of all residential development and
9 also Route 105. And to the south,
10 immediately adjacent to the south, is the
11 Phillips Avenue Elementary School, and then
12 to the west is additional commercial and
13 residential development.

14 Exhibit F contains the review of the
15 conformance with the plan.

16 So, again, the application was made
17 by the Town because the project has to clear
18 the project site for the sewage treatment
19 plan development, about 10 to 11 acres, and
20 the amount of clearing is less than that,
21 again, based on the subdivision for the
22 Enterprise Zone. So, the waiver requested is
23 to overclear for the sewage treatment plant.

24 At the end of the staff report we
25 have some questions addressing the project

1 site and confirming some of the clearing
2 limits and the project site area. The
3 Southampton Enterprise Zone was the receiving
4 area for Pine Barrens credits. So, if there
5 is any information on that issue, the Town
6 could provide it. And also, submission of
7 other approvals, obviously, and permits are
8 required.
9

10 We suggest that the record be kept
11 open for public comments or receipt of more
12 information. That's all I have. Do you have
13 any questions.

14 MR. CALARCO: If not, is the
15 applicant here or the representative?

16 MS. MASIN: Hi. Theresa Masin,
17 Planner with the Town of Southampton. I'm
18 here on behalf of the Town to seek the
19 hardship exemption for the Riverside Sewage
20 Treatment Plant. As Ms. Hargrave indicated,
21 the Town is seeking to clear approximately
22 three and a half acres over what was
23 previously allowed by the subdivision, for a
24 total of approximately 11 and a half acres;
25 that is after Phase 2 is completed. Phase 2

1
2 is the northerly section, and that would only
3 be done when we need to.

4 Phase 1 would be clearing of the
5 southerly section of the portion -- of the
6 parcel. My understanding is it's about two
7 and a half acres per phase of clearing for
8 each improved. And again, you have in your
9 packet that just got handed out, Phase 1 and
10 Phase 2 of that, and the second page, I
11 believe, is the clearing Phase 1, Phase 2 on
12 the actual site.

13 Just by way of background. Riverside
14 hamlet in the Town of Southampton is a
15 New York State and federally designated
16 community of disadvantaged community. As you
17 can see on the slide here, there are several
18 statistics as to why it's considered a
19 disadvantaged community, including 40 percent
20 of households being below federal poverty
21 levels and then 55 percent of the community
22 having some sort of disability. According to
23 the recent economic indicators, it is the
24 most economically distressed community in
25 both Suffolk County and Nassau County with

1
2 the lowest median household income and the
3 lowest household value. It's also considered
4 a Brownfield opportunity site, an urban
5 renewal area, and a potential environmental
6 justice area.

7 The Town has been working for more
8 than two decades to revitalize this area, and
9 that culminated in the development of the
10 Riverside Action Plan -- Riverside
11 Revitalization Action Plan or RRAP, which was
12 reviewed pursuant to SEQRA with the 2015
13 generic impact statement, which was reviewed
14 by the Commission at that time. The DES did
15 note that further SEQRA analysis would be
16 required for the sewage treatment plant, and
17 this is that follow up that we are now
18 proceeding with, now that we have aggregated
19 parcels in order to develop the site. The
20 supplemental draft environmental impact
21 statement was submitted to the Commission in
22 November, and you did provide us comments,
23 which we will address in the final
24 environmental impact statement.

25 The objective of the Riverside

1
2 Revitalization Action Plan and the needed
3 sewage treatment plant in order to implement
4 that plan, is to create a sense of community
5 and to protect critical resources, such as
6 the Pine Barrens, Peconic River, and David
7 Sarnoff Preserve. It's also to provide
8 economic growth, strong growth principals,
9 and sustainable development principals. We
10 also seek to stimulate the local economy, and
11 the implementation of these objectives hinges
12 on the construction of the sewage treatment
13 plant.

14 As you can see here on the map, which
15 is also included on page 1 of your packet, it
16 is in two phases. The main phase, the first
17 phase, is the most densely developed portions
18 of the community, and it does include the
19 smallest lots and the three existing mobile
20 home parks. We are currently looking to do
21 Phase 1 at this point, which is approximately
22 400,000 gallons. However, pursuant to SEQRA,
23 we are disclosing that the entire project, at
24 some future date, will be for 800,000 gallons
25 per day.

Again, Phase 1 consists of constructing the building which will house the treatment equipment, which is approximately 201 times 245 square feet. It will be a one-story concrete building and it would be equipped so that it contains all odors, and it will be set back from Route 24, which is a scenic road under the plot, so that it won't be visible from the road.

The project includes the installation of approximately 34,000 linear feet of sewer mains and associated pump houses and connects 234 lots, inclusive of the three mobile home parks, for a total of 682 connections. As you can see on the map here, the mobile home park to the southwest is the Riverwoods, and there are several DEC regulated wetlands on and adjacent to the property, and the parcel is adjacent to the David Sarnoft Preserve. The other two parcels are the yellow parcels north of 24, and they are immediately adjacent to the Peconic River.

Again, Phase 1 and Phase 2 are outlined here. Phase 2, if that ever comes

up, would be the installation of equipment to process the additional 400,000 gallons and the installation of approximately 16,000 linear feet of sewer mains; and that would connect the rest of the lower to medium density residential development, as well as the Phillips Avenue School.

So, as part of the SEQRA analysis, the Town did evaluate several alternatives; the first being, of course, the no action alternative, which would allow for no revitalization of the Riverside community and would continue to discharge 40 to 60 milligrams per liter of effluent into the system per household or commercial property.

The second alternative was constructed wetlands on the north side of 24, which you can see here on that map. I believe that's page 3 of the packet that I handed out for you. Those were parcels the Town aggregated. There are over 55 acres. But when we explored that alternative for constructive wetlands to provide additional treatment from the facility, it was

determined that the constructed wetlands would be in a flood plane and they would be less active in the wintertime when plants are dormant.

The third alternative was subsurface injection wells, which would inject the leachate from the treatment facility into the Lloyd aquifer; that was determined to be not feasible because, one, there is a ban on pumping to the Lloyd aquifer in New York State, pursuant to ECL-15-1528. Also, there is a higher energy cost for pumping those -- upgrading those injection wells, which will be passed along to the residents in a disadvantaged community. Also, there is a higher cost with respect to redundancy, and it would be more difficult to repair in the event of damage or failure.

The fourth alternative was a shared service agreement with the Town of Riverhead. However, the Town of Riverhead is at near capacity and, based on my understanding, prohibited by Town code.

The fifth and last alternative that

1 we explored was the shared services to
2 upgrade the Riverside -- I'm sorry -- the
3 Riverhead sewage treatment plant to process
4 and accept biosolids; and that is still being
5 considered as a supplement to what we are
6 pursuing now.
7

8 The Town of Southampton feels that a
9 hardship waiver should be granted to the Town
10 for this sewage treatment plant, because
11 there is a compelling public need. The
12 compelling public need would allow for
13 revitalization of a very disadvantaged
14 community. It would provide new housing and
15 employment opportunities. Housing could
16 consist of approximately 50 percent market
17 rate units and 50 percent community benefit
18 units, which would be distributed in
19 accordance with the FDIS and pursuant to
20 Section 330.12 of the Town Code.

21 It would create a pedestrian oriented
22 hamlet and provide for civic spaces and
23 private open spaces, such as hamlet greens,
24 rooftop gardens, etcetera. It would also
25 protect sensitive ecosystems like the little

1
2 Peconic River, the David Sarnoft Preserve,
3 the Cranberry Bog, and Peconic River, which,
4 as you are aware, is the main tributary to
5 the Peconic Estuary, which is an estuary of
6 national significance.

7 To protect those sensitive
8 ecosystems, the Town has partitioned more
9 than 55 acres of open space, which had
10 initially been for the use of constructed
11 wetlands but now is going to be remaining as
12 open space. And just as a further point of
13 clarification, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
14 Service has deemed the Peconic River as an
15 essential fish habitat for river herring.

16 The treated outpour from the high
17 density mobile homes parks would be treated
18 from 60 milligrams per liter down to under
19 ten, pursuant to Speedy's permit
20 requirements, and that would connect, again,
21 684 households and commercial properties in
22 just Phase 1. This would bring the parcel
23 into greater compliance with the nitrogen
24 goals of both the Peconic Estuary TMDL and
25 the clock. In fact, the Peconic Estuary TMDL

1
2 does make a suggestion that sewerage may be
3 required, in order to achieve the goals of
4 the TMDL. And finally, last, a lock would
5 remain Brownfield sites.

6 In order to mitigate the impacts
7 associated with the construction of the
8 sewage treatment plant, the Town has worked
9 to incorporate mitigative measures.
10 Obviously, the first and foremost would be
11 treating the existing effluent and reducing
12 effluent concentrations by four to five
13 orders of magnitude. The siting of STP to an
14 existing light industrial zone would keep it
15 away from the sensitive ecosystems. The
16 installation of sewer mains and associated
17 pump houses are generally within the existing
18 road right-of-ways. It is, again, set back
19 from Flanders Road, which is a scenic
20 highway.

21 All equipment would be inside the
22 concrete building to eliminate potential
23 odors. It is located within the Compatible
24 Growth Area, but it is at the downward edge
25 or down gradient edge of the Compatible

1
2 Growth Area where sewage -- groundwater flow,
3 flows towards the river in a northerly
4 direction. Because of the large amount of
5 clearing and development associated with the
6 sewage treatment plan, a storm water solution
7 prevention plan and a permit will be required
8 and obtained. And then the clearing on
9 Phase 2, which is the property known as the
10 Five Towns property, will remain in existing
11 condition until needed. Disturbance around
12 and at the sewage treatment plant and pump
13 stations will be planted or seeded as soon as
14 possible after disturbance using
15 non-native -- I'm sorry -- noninvasive native
16 grasses, and we will be establishing a buffer
17 around the perimeter of the STP site.

18 Again, as part of the project, we had
19 initially acquired over 55 acres of land on
20 the north side of Flanders Road which, since
21 we are not going to be using for constructed
22 wetlands, will be preserved as open space.
23 Obviously, in order to comply with Fish and
24 Wildlife requirements, we will be doing all
25 site clearing during the allowable clearing

1 window.

2
3 So, I can make myself available for
4 any questions -- wait. One final thing. We
5 do have significant funding for this project,
6 including almost \$11 million that the Town
7 has invested, and we are currently waiting
8 for over \$17 million from DFC, and that's
9 part of why we have to close on this project
10 with district formation by June 14th.

11 Do you have any questions for me?

12 MR. CALARCO: Does anybody have any
13 questions?

14 (No response was heard.)

15 MR. CALARCO: Seeing none, thank you
16 very much. Is there anybody else who would
17 like to address us regarding this particular
18 application? State your name for the record.

19 MR. SEAMAN: My name is Jeff Seaman.
20 I am the environmental consultant
21 representing the Town of Riverhead on this
22 application for this hearing. First, welcome
23 everyone to Riverhead. I hope you're
24 enjoying the new accommodations.

25 For the benefit of this Board,

1 because this is the first time we have been
2 able to address many of the stakeholders
3 under one roof, I'd just like to highlight
4 some of Riverhead's concerns with the overall
5 district formation and the wastewater that's
6 being treated in general.
7

8 I recognize that time is important to
9 everyone here today, and the primary focus is
10 on the hardship wavier. However, Riverhead
11 has attended all three of the SEQRA hearings
12 that have been held in Southampton. I
13 understand that Southampton is fully aware of
14 our concerns. However, the importance here
15 is the schedule under SEQRA. The hearings
16 were closed last Thursday with a ten day
17 written comment period. So, I think it's
18 important that everyone understands some of
19 our concerns, but also some of the
20 opportunities that lie ahead for all of the
21 stakeholders.

22 For the benefit of everyone,
23 Riverhead has been receiving the wastewater
24 from the County Center and the correctional
25 facilities for about the last 60 years. As

1 part of the review process of this
2 application, Southampton was asked by the
3 Environmental Facilities Corporation to look
4 at consolidating their wastewater, all
5 800,000 gallons, and sending that to the
6 Riverhead treatment plant, along with the
7 biosolids. Those were alternatives four and
8 five in the generic EIS. We can't
9 accommodate that because the capacity of the
10 plant and also the capacity that we have
11 within the infrastructure of Riverhead, and
12 that is being impacted by the flow that we're
13 receiving from the County. That flow is
14 approximately 100,000 gallons a day.

16 Riverhead's needs here include a
17 Transfer Development Rights program that is
18 proposed within your updated master plan.
19 That TDR program has identified a sending
20 area north of Sound Avenue with the intent of
21 the receiving area on the western end of Main
22 Street, which is sewerred, or can easily be
23 extended for our sewer system. It's also
24 served by Riverhead Water District. So, that
25 gives an opportunity to move that density

1
2 with an incentive plan, preserve that land
3 that Riverhead does not have the CPF funds
4 that our neighboring towns have, and move
5 that development into an area that can be
6 accommodated by the Riverhead sewage plant,
7 but that is restricted by the 100,000 gallons
8 per day that we're receiving from the County.

9 There is a county owned pump station
10 at Nugent Drive. Nugent Drive is
11 approximately 1,000 feet west of the nearest
12 connection point of what would be the current
13 proposed Riverside Sewer District, and that
14 connection could be feasible as early as
15 Phase 1. That would also provide the County
16 an opportunity to be included in the
17 Riverside District and not be subject to a
18 service agreement that it currently has with
19 Riverhead. That opportunity would give a
20 fixed cost on what the County would be paying
21 for the disposal of the wastewater and
22 provide an income stream to the wastewater
23 treatment plant and its operational cost for
24 the benefit of Southampton.

25 We don't see many down sides to this,

1 and we're not trying to obstruct the process
2 or the deadlines that are important to the
3 revitalization of Riverside, because what
4 happens in Riverside is also happening in
5 Riverhead. Revitalization plans so far in
6 Riverhead have been quite successful,
7 via-a-vis the fact that we reflect it in
8 Riverside. But we cannot continue to
9 accommodate the County, especially when it
10 would make an intelligent choice to shift
11 that flow to a newer and much closer
12 treatment facility.
13

14 Furthermore, the western end of
15 Riverhead's Main Street also has failing
16 septic systems, and it make no environmental
17 sense to continue to allow that to operate
18 upstream while \$35 million is being invested
19 in Riverside to correct nitrogen loading
20 within the estuary downstream.

21 I have much more extensive comments
22 that I'm going to submit, and I'm happy to
23 answer any questions that anyone may have.

24 MR. CALARCO: Any questions?

25 (No response was heard.)

1
2 MR. SEAMAN: I ask you to consider
3 this in your deliberations, largely because
4 the SEQRA process will close, I believe, on
5 Monday next week, and that will not give
6 Riverhead another opportunity to make public
7 comments.

8 Lastly, I think we have been
9 recognized as an interested party. We
10 believe that because at least one of the
11 options under the alternatives, the biosolids
12 disposal may still be open for discussion and
13 would require an approval to move in that
14 direction by the Town Board, we should be
15 included in the involved agencies list.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. CALARCO: Okay. Thank you, sir,
18 we appreciate your time. Anybody else?

19 MS. THOMAS: Good afternoon. My name
20 is Dawn Thomas. I'm the director of Economic
21 Development Planning and Building for the
22 Town of Riverhead. I just wanted to
23 reiterate Mr. Seaman's comments on the
24 technical aspects of his presentation, but I
25 really wanted to emphasize the Town's request

1
2 that the County Center and correctional
3 facility be included in the new Riverside
4 community sewage treatment district from the
5 outset. Environmental justice requires that
6 these facilities be included in the new
7 district. This will allow Riverhead to
8 maximize its TDR program.

9 I don't know how familiar everyone
10 is. We have 7,000 acres left to buy of
11 primary cultural land in Riverhead and we
12 have zero dollars and CPF funds, just because
13 of the way Riverhead is and our property
14 values are not anywhere near what the other
15 east end towns have. So, every tool we have
16 in our toolbox to buy -- to acquire this
17 farmland, including TDR and clustering, CPF,
18 again, is really necessary. So, this 100,000
19 gallons is really essential to us, and
20 particularly our new comprehensive plan which
21 is really working incredibly hard to make
22 sure that the TDR program actually works. It
23 really hasn't been effective over the last 20
24 years, so this is really important to us.

25 If we have any chance of preserving

1
2 some of the 7,000 acres of prime farmland, we
3 really need to have this flow removed from
4 our district. Including the flow in the
5 County facilities and the new Riverside
6 district. We also provide needed flow and
7 tax dollars to the new district, which would
8 offset the cost to the residents of
9 Riverside, which is an area of persistent
10 poverty, historically disadvantaged, and an
11 environmental justice area.

12 So, for all those reasons, we are
13 asking Southampton to work on amending its
14 proposed nature plan to include those
15 facilities in it. I'm here to answer any
16 questions you have. Thank you.

17 MR. HUBBARD: I would just like to
18 add. We talk about 100,000 gallons from the
19 County Center and the County jail, but, in
20 essence, it's really 200,000 gallons because
21 we have to maintain Department of Health
22 standards and using their formula. Because
23 of the space and the size and the number of
24 toilets, we have to guarantee almost 200,000
25 gallons availability to that. So, that

1 prohibits our expansion into the West Main
2 Street area, because we have to guarantee
3 200,000, although they are only using roughly
4 100,000. So, that's an important point to
5 make that it handcuffs the Town of Riverhead
6 a little bit more.
7

8 MS. THOMAS: Very much.

9 MR. HUBBARD: Unfairly, in my
10 prejudiced opinion.

11 MS. THOMAS: Anyone who is familiar
12 with West Main Street, you would recognize it
13 as a blighted and dis-invested area. It
14 would be great if we could sewer it and add a
15 little more residential and commercial
16 development to it. There are opportunities
17 for grant funding with the sewer extension
18 for us, and also for trails and bike lanes
19 and things like that, that are necessary.
20 So, we are really looking forward to that,
21 but we really do need that flow back. Thank
22 you.

23 MS. SCHERER: I just wanted to
24 comment on the timing, if I may, and that is
25 that we're not adverse, necessarily, to

1 looking at the inclusion of the County
2 Center, but we have to form the district by
3 June. So, that would -- what you're saying
4 would necessitate us to start over and redo a
5 map and plan area. It's really difficult to
6 do that. Although, in our response to
7 comments, we can say we can look at it as a
8 third phase or part of Phase 2, and then we
9 would have the time, as we're doing
10 engineering designs, to redo that.

12 At this point, I just want to manage
13 expectations that it's not that we don't want
14 to, it's the time. It's March, right? It's
15 effectively almost March. This has to happen
16 by June. In order to go back to redo it
17 would be impossible and we would lose that
18 ability to get that funding. However, we
19 want to look at that comprehensively,
20 understand what it is. We're committing
21 200,000 gallons of flow potentially. What
22 does that do to the potential revitalization?
23 How can we work together to figure that out?
24 I think the supervisor is here; he can speak
25 to that. We want to work together. The

1
2 timing is the concern here.

3 MS. MOORE: I completely understand
4 that you're maxed out with the plans and you
5 need the ability to revitalize the downtown.
6 You did an excellent job in getting so much
7 grants.

8 MS. THOMAS: Thank you.

9 MS. MOORE: So, we want to help. We
10 should take over the County Center and the
11 jail, but as Janice said, the problem, the
12 other thing is in Phase 1. We're to treat
13 the existing effluent at about 200,000
14 gallons a day. If we had a total of 400,000
15 in Phase 1, we wouldn't have any flow left to
16 do any of the planned revitalization of the
17 area.

18 MR. HUBBARD: Welcome to our world.

19 MS. MOORE: I know. This map and
20 plan is just for Phase 1 is my understanding.
21 So, we would have to do another one for
22 Phase 2. I would tell you, if I'm still
23 here, I would include the County Center and
24 the jail. I wish we knew before the map and
25 plans were already in place. We do have

1
2 Janice who has really gotten a lot, so much
3 grant funding for us, and I hate to
4 jeopardize that, if we don't finalize things
5 by June. That's where we're coming from.

6 MS. SCHERER: I think it's important
7 to work with the County Executive and talk
8 about the potential here.

9 MR. ROMAIN: I already told our
10 supervisor of Riverhead we're going to pay
11 all the bills they haven't paid for the last
12 few years.

13 MR. HUBBARD: We appreciate that.

14 MS. THOMAS: I do appreciate the
15 overtures relating to working together. I
16 know we can work together. I think Riverside
17 is a great opportunity for Riverhead and
18 Southampton to make civic community needs for
19 everyone. That is fantastic.

20 The development that was proposed to
21 be included in the proposed sewage treatment
22 plan doesn't exist yet, so I think there is
23 an opportunity. It is a public process. The
24 map and plan is a public process. So, the
25 drawing in of public input and important

public issue is really what it's about.

So, I understand the timing is difficult. We would work in every way we could to advance and work with you and EFC the grant money. I guarantee EFC would be grateful to know that we're doing the best possible thing we can for river values and for the communities that are involved. So, I understand that. I don't think it's a bar to us working together and trying to revise that plan now. So, I hope that we can talk about that. Thanks.

MS. SCHERER: I don't want to belabor the point, but we can go back. We need to form a district and put in our finance application by June 14th. Then we are doing engineering work for a year. During this time frame, we can then come back and look at anything that we missed and fix. Of course, we'd have to advance a new map and plan process. We can do that, it's just that between March and June we can't. After that, we can.

MR. CALARCO: Sounds like our two

towns will be getting together and having a conversation. We just have the hardship before us right now.

MR. ROMAINÉ: That's all we have before us.

MR. CALARCO: Just the hardship.

MS. SCHERER: We can't form a district if we couldn't place it there. We can't place it there, if we don't know that this Commission will grant that.

MR. ROMAINÉ: Close the hearing.

MR. CALARCO: So, is there anybody else that would like to address us on this particular item?

(No response was heard.)

MR. CALARCO: Seeing none, John, what are we doing here? Are we making a motion to close?

MR. MILAZZO: Close this hearing, keep it open for two weeks.

MR. ROMAINÉ: I'll make a motion to close the public portion with a 14 day public comment period.

MR. CALARCO: Motion seconded from

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Supervisor Hubbard.

MR. HUBBARD: Second.

MR. CALARCO: All those in favor.

(WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous
affirmative vote of the Board.)

MR. CALARCO: Opposed?

(No response was heard.)

MR. CALARCO: The public hearing is
closed with two weeks four public comment
period.

(Time Ended: 3:37 p.m.)

* * *

February 21, 2024

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, BETHANNE MENNONNA, a Notary Public
within and for the State of New York do
hereby certify that the foregoing is a true
and accurate transcript of the proceedings,
as taken stenographically by myself to the
best of my ability, at the time and place
aforementioned.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 25th day of February, 2024.



BETHANNE MENNONNA